

138.

POINTED AND UNPOINTED
ROMANIC ALPHABETS

COMPARED,
IN SIX VERSIONS

OF



LUKE xiv, 18—20.

BY

J. G. THOMPSON

Madras Civil Service.

MANGALORE:

PRINTED BY G. PLEBST, GERMAN MISSION PRESS.

1859.

3062. E. 1.

Malayalam

Caldwell's Alphabet

Unpointed Alphabet.

18. Ap̄iṣol avar'ellavar-
um onnirac uriccil par-
anu tutarisi. Mum-bilitt-
avan avanōtu 'Nān oru
'vayal nilam konditt undu.
'Alta p̄oyi k̄annan inī.
'leka āvasyam unda:
"enne oriṇṇu kōḷḷ'ēnam"
'enna Nān ninnōta āp̄ek̄k̄
'ikkannu' enna parāṇṇu.

19. Ap̄iṣol marr oruttan
'Nān ari ēr k̄ala konditt
'undu, Nān avare sōdhana
'ceyyan p̄ogannu: "enne
'oriṇṇa kōḷḷ'ēnam" enna
'Nān ninnōta āp̄ek̄k̄
enna parāṇṇu. 20. Marr-
oruttan-am 'Nān oru str̄iye
'vivāham ceyditt undu,
'atakōṇḍa inikka varuṇṇ
'k̄arikka-y-illa', enna
parāṇṇu.

18. Ap̄iṣol avar'ellavar-
um onnirac uriccil par-
anu tutarisi. Mum-bilitt-
avan avanōtu 'Nān oru
'vayal nilam konditt undu.
'Alta p̄oyi k̄annan inī.
'leka āvasyam unda:
"enne ṣip̄ṇu kōḷḷ'ēnam"
'enna Nān ninnōta āp̄ek̄k̄
'ikkannu' enna parāṇṇu.

19. Ap̄iṣol marr oruttan
'Nān antō'ēr k̄ala konditt
'undu, Nān avare sōdhana
't̄eyyan p̄ogannu: "enne
'ṣip̄ṇa kōḷḷ'ēnam" enna
'Nān ninnōta āp̄ek̄k̄
enna parāṇṇu. 20. Marr-
oruttan-am 'Nān oru str̄iye
'vivāham t̄eyditt undu,
'atakōṇḍa inikka varuṇṇ
'k̄aṣṭikka-y-illa', enna
parāṇṇu.

Phonetic

Malayalam

Caldwell

ā
ai
au
d
j
ē
i
ksh
l
n
ṇ
n
ō
r
ṣ
sh
ṣ
t
v
y

Telugu

Wilson's Alphabet.

Unpointed Alphabet

18. Aitē-n andaru-nnu	18. Aitē-n andaru-nnu	Phonet.	
ēkamugā nepamu tōppa-n	ēkamugā nepamu tōppa-n	Wilson's	Phonet.
ārambhinchiri. Modati-	ārambhinchiri. Modati-		
vādu vānito 'Nēn oka	vādu vānity 'Nēn' oka	ā	a
'potamanu konu konnānu,	'potamanu konu konnānu,	ē	e
'Nēn avasyamu-gā pōy dāni	'Nēn' avasyamu-gā pōy dāni	ō	o
tāida valasinadi ganaka	tāida valasinadi ganaka	ū	u
"nannu kōhaminchē lāguna"	"nannu kōhamintōy lāguna"	ē	ē
'chēya valayun' ani Nēnu	'tōya valayun' ani Nēnu	ē	j
'ninnu vēdu konutō unnān'	'ninnu vēdu konutō' unnān'	ō	ē
ani cheppenu. 19. Mari-y-	ani cheppenu. 19. Mari-y-	ō	i
-okaḍu 'Nēnu aid arakala	-okaḍu 'Nēnu aid' arakala	ē	ka
'yeddulanu konu kōṭṭini:	'yeddulanu konu kōṭṭini:	ē	i
'Vāṭini parikeshintōa pōvati	'Vāṭini parikeshintōa pōvati	ē	n
'unnānu, "Nannu kōhaminchē	'unnānu, "Nannu kōhamintōy	ē	n
'lāguna chēya valayun' ani	'lāguna tōya valayun' ani	ē	n
'Nēnu ninnu vēdukōnutō	'Nēnu ninnu vēdukōnutō	ē	ō
'unnān' ani cheppenu.	'unnān' ani cheppenu.	ē	n
20. tōk okadū 'Nēn oka	20. tōk' okadū, 'Nēn' oka	ē	ka
'strīni vivāhamu chēsu	'strīni vivāhamu tōsu	ō	i
'kōṭṭini, ganaka Nēnu	'kōṭṭini, ganaka. Nēnu	ē	n
'rā lēn' ani cheppenu.	'rā lēn' ani cheppenu.	ē	n

Canarese.

Wilson's Alphabet

Unpointed Alphabet

Letters.		18. Uvar ottaru onde	18. Uvar ottaru onde
Unpointed	Canarese	manass-âgi; mannisa bek'	manass-âgi; mannisa bek'
		endu, annal ârambhisidaru	endu, annal grammbhisidaru.
		Modalaru-y-avanu avanige,	Modalaru-y-avanu avanige,
a	â	'Notavannu kondu kondiddhene	'Notavannu kondu kondiddhene;
ai	âi	'adannu hogi nâda beku;	'adannu hogi nâda beku;
au	âu	'nannannu mannisa bek'	'nannannu mannisa bek'
d	â	endu ninnannu bedi	endu ninnannu bedi
da	â	'kolluttene', andanu.	'kolluttene', andanu.
e	â	19. ber obbanu, Ninnu	19. ber obbanu, Ninnu
i	âi	'aidu jodu ettigalannu	'aidu dâjodu ettigalannu
ke	â	'kodu kondiddhene; awu-	'kodu kondiddhene; awu-
l	â	'galannu parikshisa hogutt-	'galannu parikshisa hogutt-
n	â	'ene; nannannu man-	'ene; nannannu man-
ne	â	'nisa bek' endu ninn-	'nisa bek' endu ninn-
n	â	'annu bedi kolluttene',	'annu bedi kolluttene',
o	â	andanu.	andanu.
of	â	20. ber obbanu Nennu	20. ber obbanu Nennu
o	â	'maduve madi kondid-	'maduve madi kondid-
o	â	'dhene; adakkoskara	'dhene; adakkoskara
t	â	'baral arenu', andanu.	'baral arenu', andanu.
to	â		
u	â		

English

Caldwell's Alphabet

Unpointed Alphabet

18. And x'e x'l	18. And f j	Phonetic Letters		
		Caldwell's	Unpointed	Examples
wi x wan kansent	wif wan kansent			
beg x n tu m'ek ekkyis	beg n tu m'ek ekkyis			
x i farst sed unti	f i farst sed unti			
him; 'Ai hav b x t	him; 'Ai hav b t	a	at	Calm
'a p'is av graund	'a f'iz av graund	ai	ai	File
'and Ai most nld go	'and Ai most nld go	au	au	Fowl
'and si it: Ai p're	'and si it: Ai p're	a	a	Fowl
'x i "h x v mi ekkyusd	'f j "h x v mi ekkyusd	x	x	Fallow
19. And ana x ar sed,	19. And anatar sed,	j	ds	Judge
'Ai hav b x t faiv	'Ai hav b t faiv	e	e	Fail
'yok av x sen, and	'yok av sksen, and	i	i	Feel
'Ai go tu p'riw x em;	'Ai go tu p'riw x em;	n	g	King
'Ai p're x i "h x v mi	'Ai p're f j "h x v mi	w	w	Fall
"ekkyusd."	"ekkyusd"	ai	ai	Foil
20. And ana x ar sed,	20. And anatar sed,	o	o	Folly
'Ai h x v m x rid a waif,	'Ai h x v m x rid a waif,	o	o	Fool
'and x'of x Ai kan x t	'and x'of x Ai kan x t	sh	sh	Shine
'kam'	'kam'	a	to	Chuck
		x	x	Thin
		x	x	Three
		ai	u	Fool
		x	s	Zones
		x	s	Vision

Phonetic Letters.			Hindustani	
	Forbes'	Unpointed	Forbes' Alphabet	Unpointed Alphabet
			18. Us par sabhōn	18. Us par sabhgy ne
آ	ā	a	nē milkar 'uzr kar	milkar gutr karng surue
ای	ai	ai	nā shurū' kiya. pahlē	kiya pahlē ne us kahy
او	au	au	nē usi kahā ki 'Main	ki 'Main ne khet karida
د	d	d	nē knēt kharidā hai ;	hai ; farr hai, ki donke
ج	j	da	'Zarūr hai, ki jakē usi	usē dekhuy : 'Main teri
ی	i	i	dēkhūn. 'Main teri	'minnat kartā hyz , ki
غ	gh	g	'minnat kartā hūn, ki	"meri faraf se gutr kar"
خ	kh	ch	"mērī taraf se 'uzr kar"	19. Dusrē ne kahy .
ح	h	h	19. Dusrē nē kahū,	'Main ne pyntō dōri
ای	i	i	'Main nē pūnch jōrī	'bail karidā hai ; dō
ق	k	k	'bail kharidā hai ; jā	ty hyz , ki un kō se
و	o	o	'tū hūn, ki un kō āz-	'mauy : 'Main teri min-
او	ō	o	'māūn : 'Main teri min-	'nat kartā hyz , kī
ژ	z	z	'nat kartā hūn, ki	"meri faraf se gutr
ص	s	s	"mērī taraf se 'uzr	"kar."
ش	sh	sh	"kar". 20. tīrē nē	20. tīrē ne kahy .
ط	t	t	kahā, 'Main nē byāh kiya	'Main ne byāh kiya
ث	t	t	'hai, is sabab se natūn	'hai, is sabab se natūz
ج	ch	ch	'ā saktā.	'ā saktā.
ش	sh	sh		
ض	z	z		
ن	z	z		
او	ā	ā		
ظ	z	z		
ر	r	r		
ز	zh	zh		

That the supersession of the many complicated alphabets of India by a single alphabet based upon the Roman, would be a great advantage to the country, few men will now deny. But the extent of the advantage must depend so much upon the selection of the Alphabet, that the writer has printed the preceding pages to afford the means of comparing some of the *pointed* and *unpointed* alphabets proposed.

2. He has never met any one who would, except under compulsion, add *dots* and *accents* to the skeleton of a word; and he believes that no *pointed* alphabet can ever be taken into general use. If so, the adoption of one by Government would benefit none but the official classes and youths at school. It would, moreover, demand more time and care than could be given by a man in busy life. The addition or omission of dots,—through haste, or thoughtlessness, or fraud,—might alter the whole meaning of a sentence. In Hindustani a dot makes all the difference between 7 and 60. A dot may be inserted or erased by one of the parties to a deed after it has left the other's hands, or in an official paper by a clerk. The possibility of this would make written papers wholly insecure; and would open a fresh door to disputes and evil practices. In printing, also, dots and accents soon become worn down, even with fair usage: and in careless hands they are often broken off. The labor of correcting the press where they are used is very great, and the strain upon the eyes injurious: especially as they often fail to print in the first few proofs.

3. An *unpointed* alphabet is not open to any of these charges. It requires no more time and patience in a writer than the common Italic or current letters: and it may fairly be expected that the whole body of the people would gladly adopt one instead of the troublesome alphabets they use; especially when they found that it aided them in learning English. The one now proposed is based on Lepsius' Standard Alphabet; and the faults of earlier unpointed alphabets have been carefully avoided. It is easier to learn than any pointed alphabet, and easier to read and write;—less likely to be mistaken; easier to cut, cast, set up, correct, and distribute; and less liable to accident. It will require no more new types than a pointed Alphabet.

4. But it is to a writer that it offers the greatest advantages. These may be tested by copying a page of either Hindustani, Malayalam, or Tamil in each system. A few words with several Phonetic letters each will be enough. The convenience of a writer has not been sufficiently considered in works upon this subject.

5. Forbes' alphabet has been chosen for Hindustani because his valuable dictionaries and other works are in the hands of almost every English student of the language. Prof. Wilson's is selected on account of his great authority, and because his glossary, spelled in it, is supplied to every office in the country. And Dr. Caldwell's has been used because it was due to the author of the Comparative Grammar of the Dravidian Languages, and because of the letter he has lately published on Romanizing the Vernacular Alphabets.

6 Each Tamil consonant has been represented everywhere by the same symbol of his alphabet, according to his wish. But the writer believes that such spelling would be very puzzling to a Native, and would greatly hinder the general adoption of a Romanic alphabet. A Native accustomed to give 4 sounds to each Romanic consonant in Tamil would give it 4 sounds in English; and unless he were well taught, his pronunciation might be ruined altogether.

7. Some of the letters now proposed are scarcely satisfactory: but they are the best that have occurred. They are all easy to read and write; and the reason for the adoption of each is given in a paper which is passing through the press. These pages are issued first lest that paper should be too late to affect the selection of an alphabet. All the specimens are equally ill written; but the comparison is scarcely fair, because the pointed letters are old friends, and the unpointed are strangers in a ragged state. But worse specimens of the unpointed alphabet have been read with ease by persons—Natives as well as Europeans,—who did not know the languages.

8. A long vowel is here written as much below as above the line, that the principle of the alphabet may be distinctly seen. But in practice it need not be so: and a quarter of the lower part would be enough in printing, except for a reason given in the paper alluded to. The lengthened letters should not be wider than the rest. They should be what are as elongated known as elongated letters.

18 July 1860

Professor Max Müller

Sir,

I take the liberty of forwarding a copy of each of 2 pamphlets on the representation of Oriental & other languages by means of Romanic Alphabets, - a question of the greatest moment.

Printed &
Unprinted
Romanic
Alphabets
compared
Mangalore
1859

A Complete
Phonetic
Alphabet
Bombay
1859.

A Phonetic Roman Alphabet is required for 3 different purposes:

I. For persons who are learning to read for the first time.

II. For persons who are learning a new language

III. For use in the daily business of life, - (to the exclusion of all other alphabets except that of phonography,) - to facilitate

the intercourse of nations, & thus promote a good understanding between them.

of the same pamphlet, & on the
back of the cover of "Pointed &
Unpointed Romanic Alphabets compared."

I shall be delight to afford
any explanation you may desire:
A note addressed to the care of
Messrs Coutts & Co., 59 Strand W.C.,
will be forwarded to me.

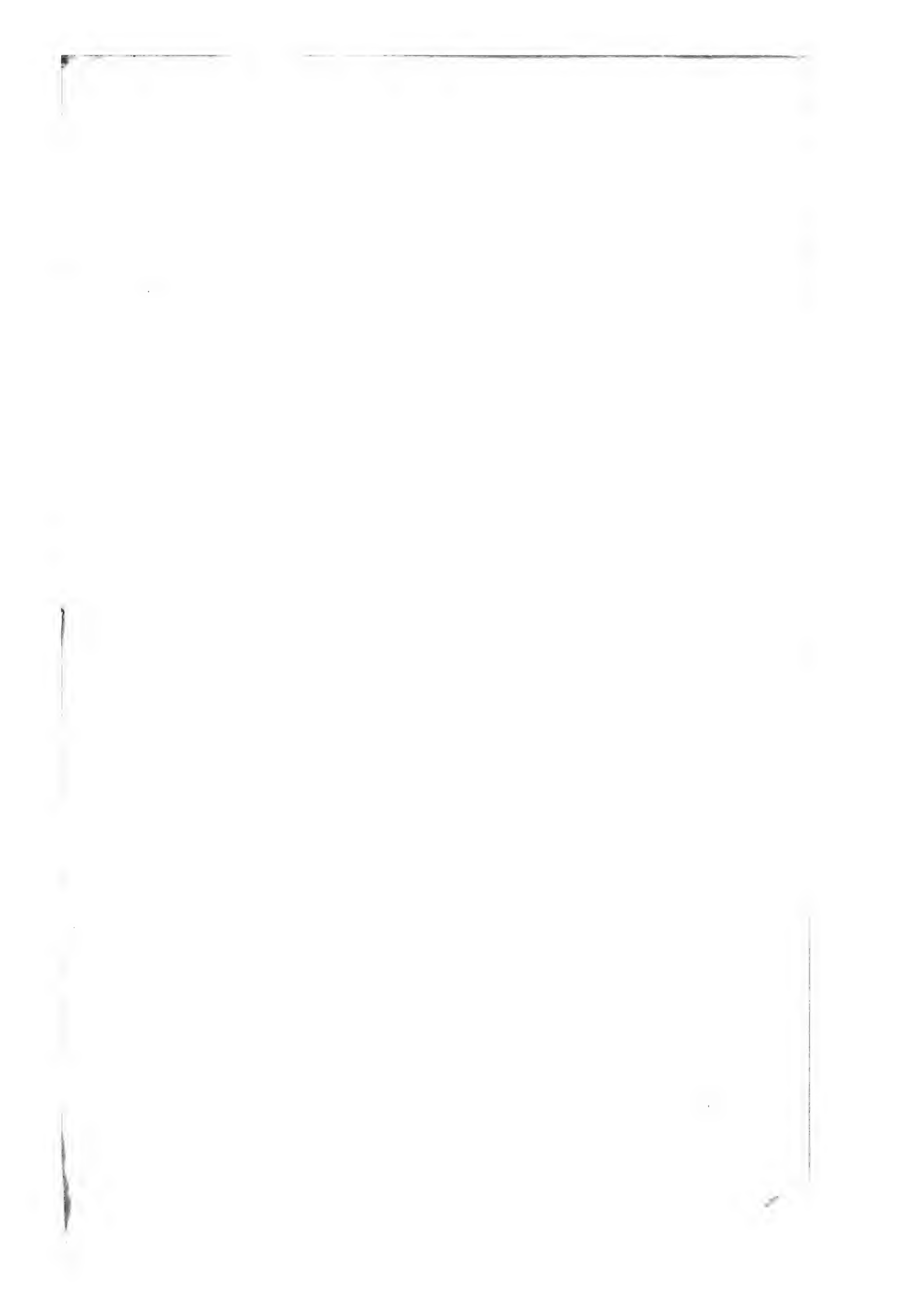
I am, Sir, yours faithfully

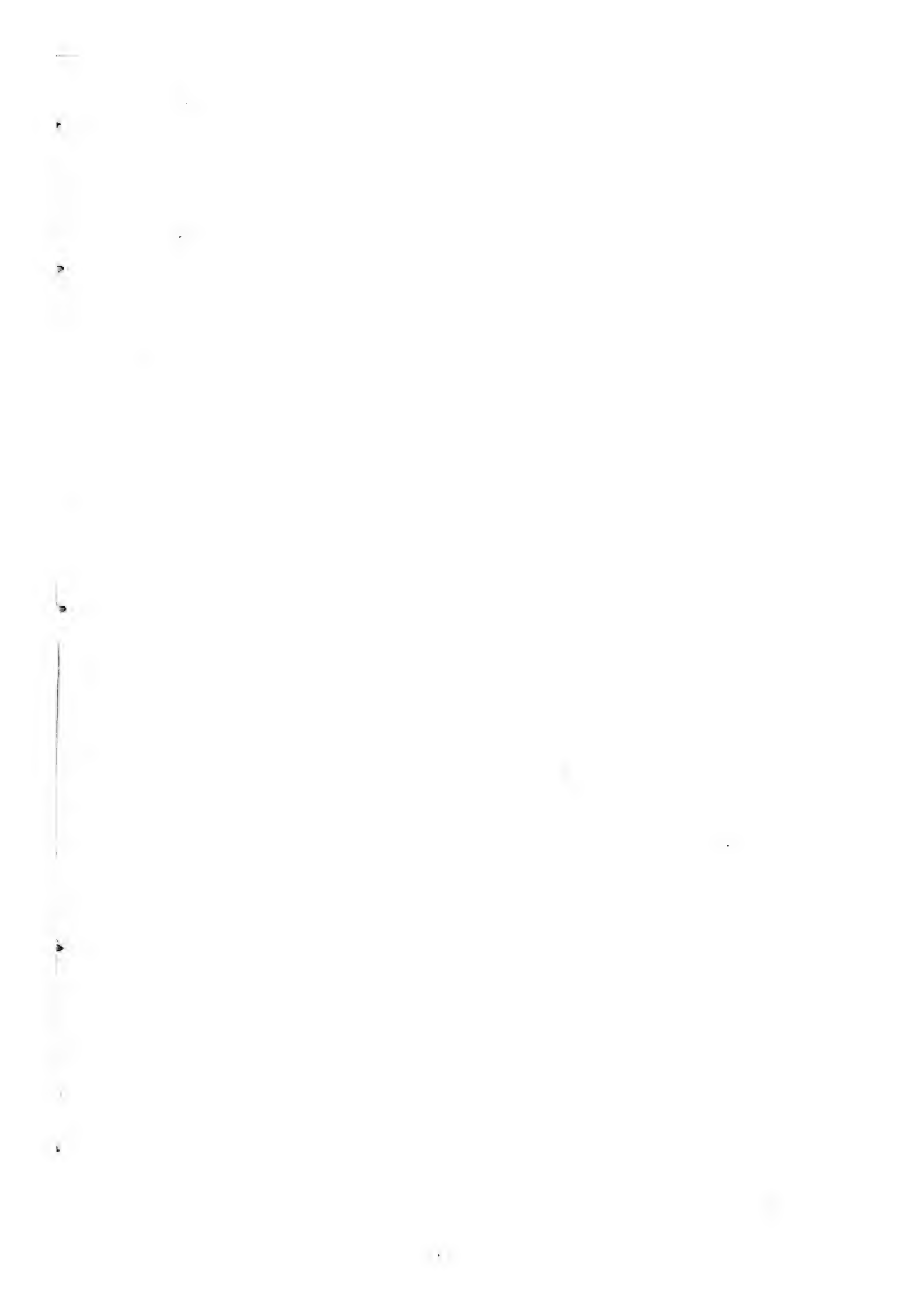
J. Thompson

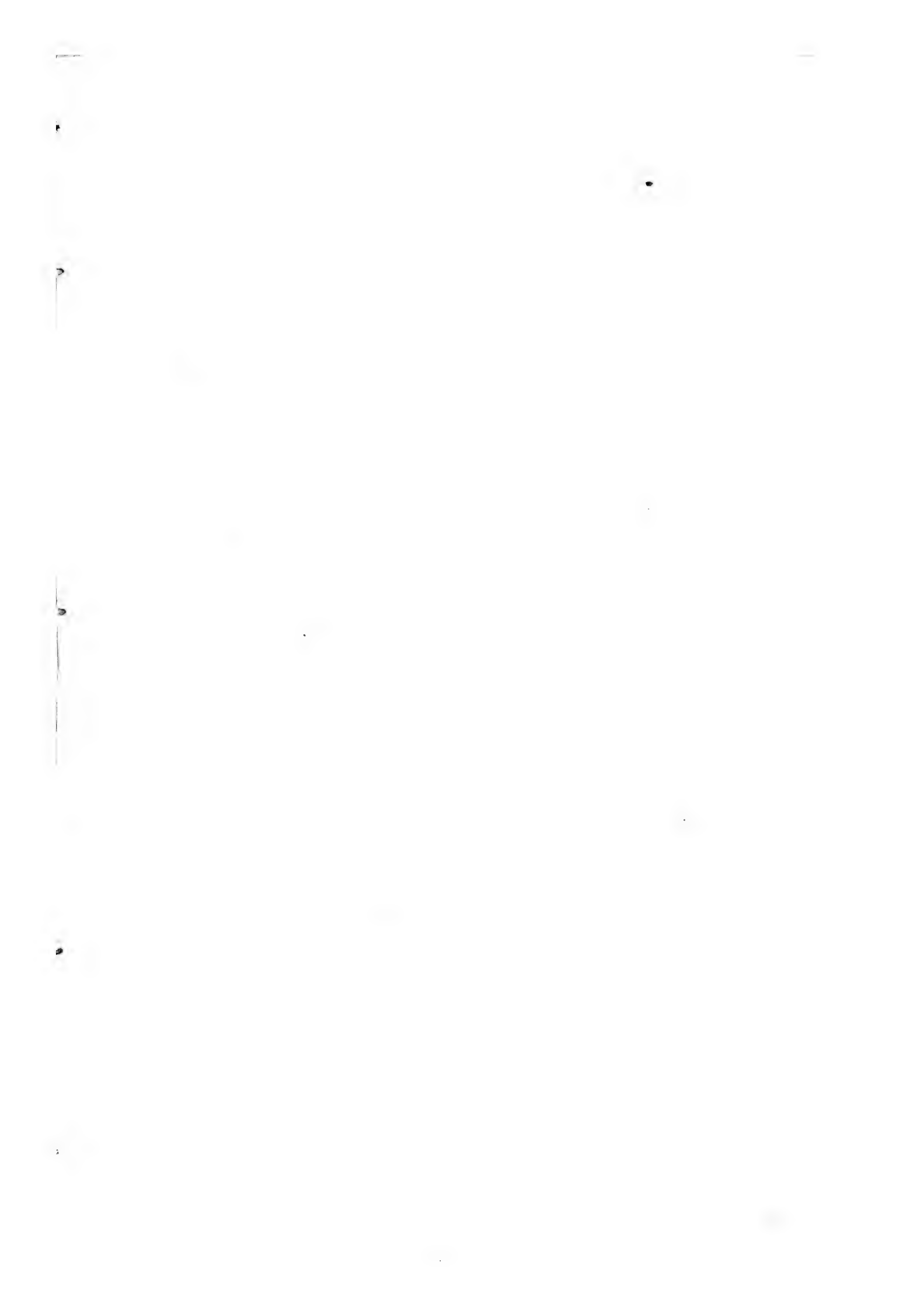
Madras Civil Service.

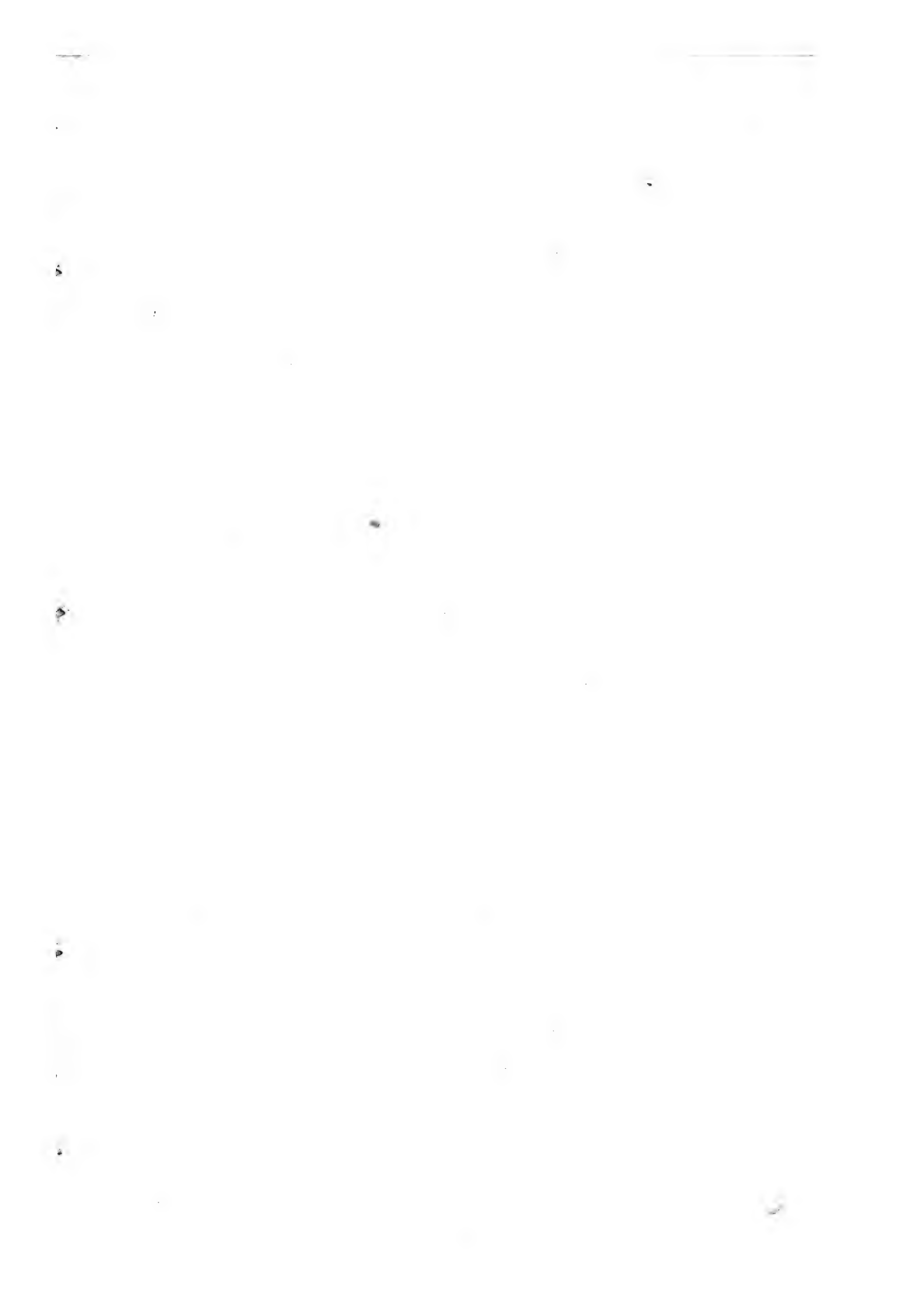
ns,—who did not know the languages.

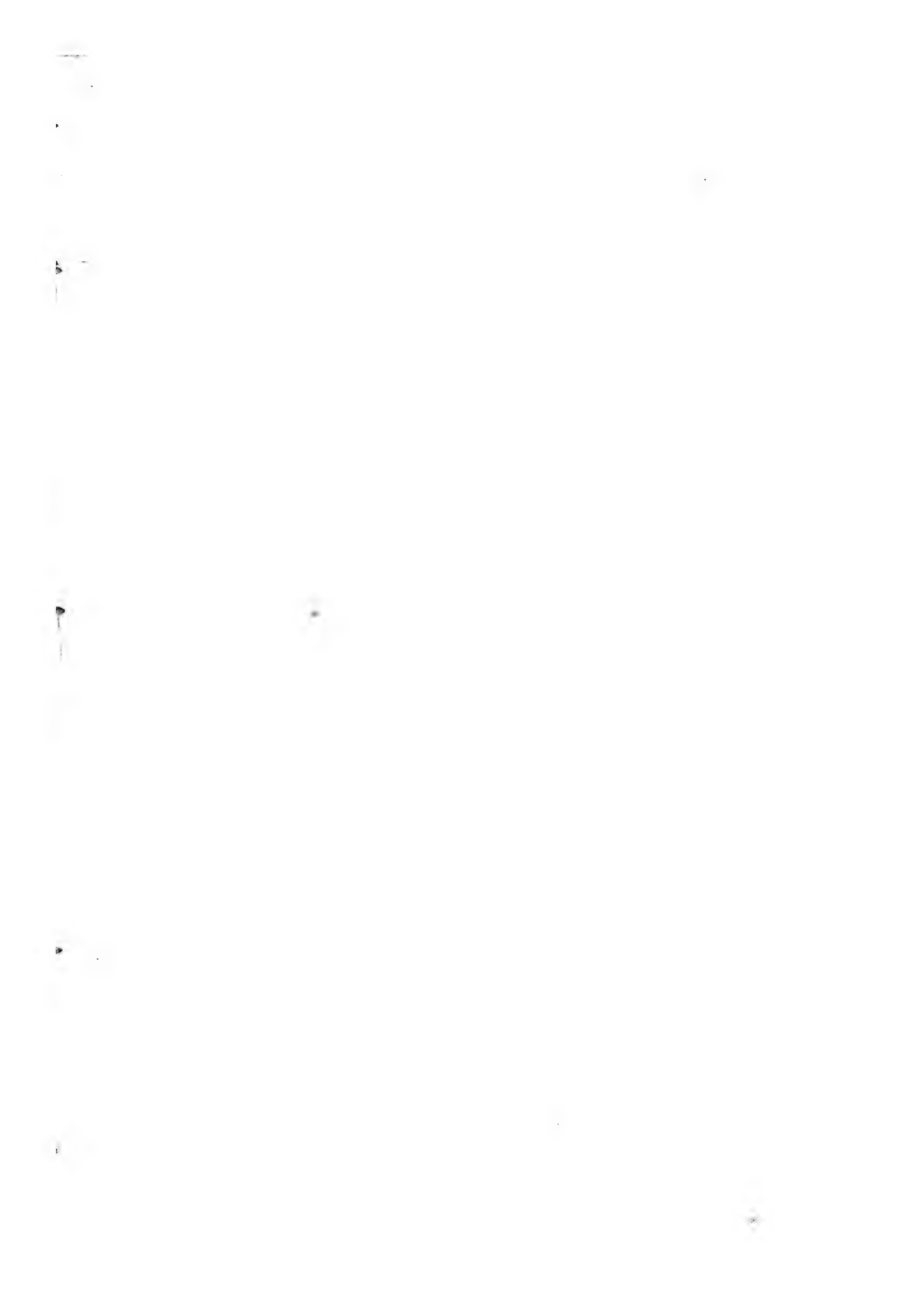
8. A long vowel is here written as much below as above the line, that the principle of the
alphabet may be distinctly seen. But in practice it need not be so: and a quarter of the lower
would be enough in printing, except for a reason given in the paper alluded to
above. The lengthened letters should not be wider than the rest. They should be what
known as elongated letters.

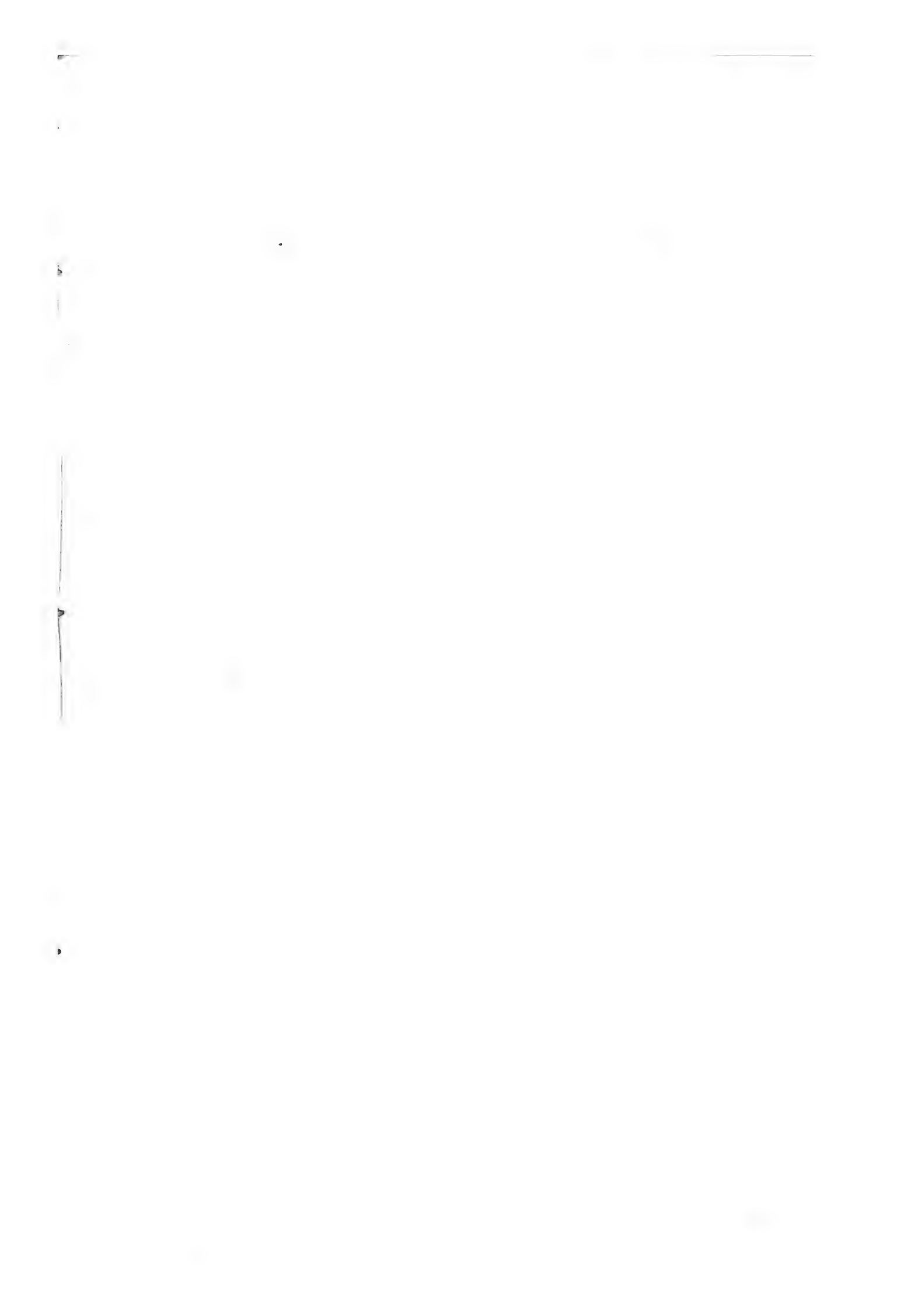


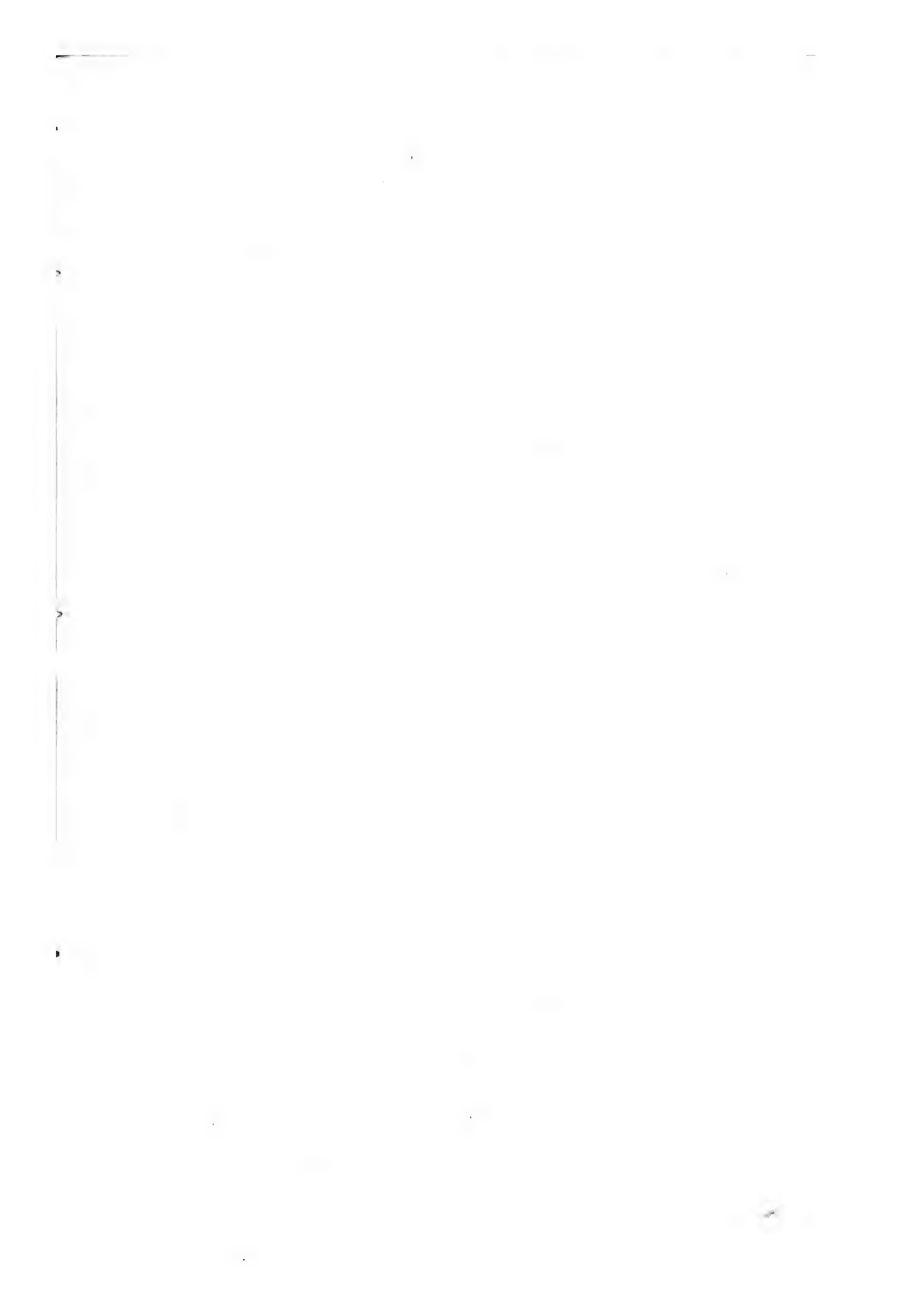












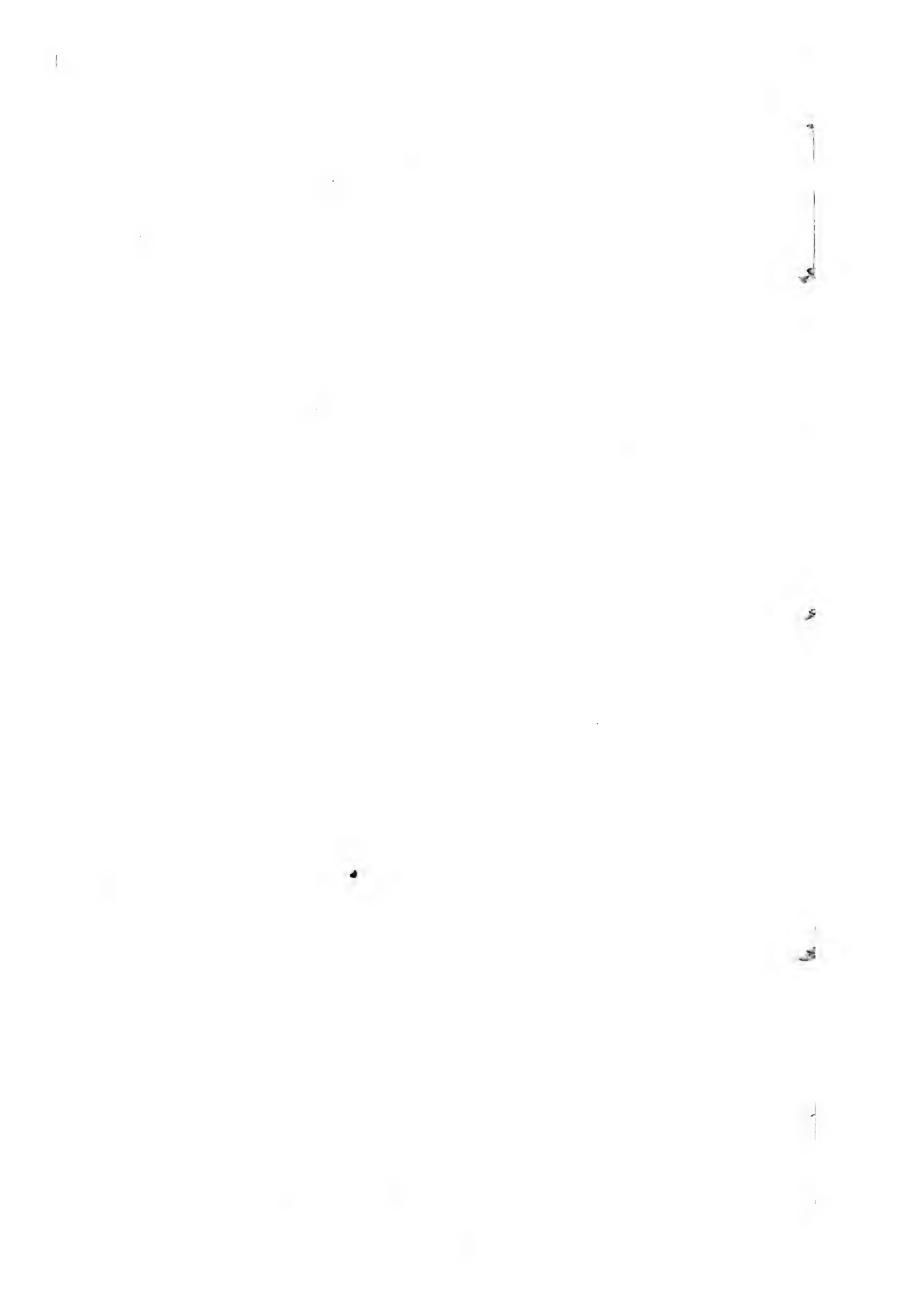
1

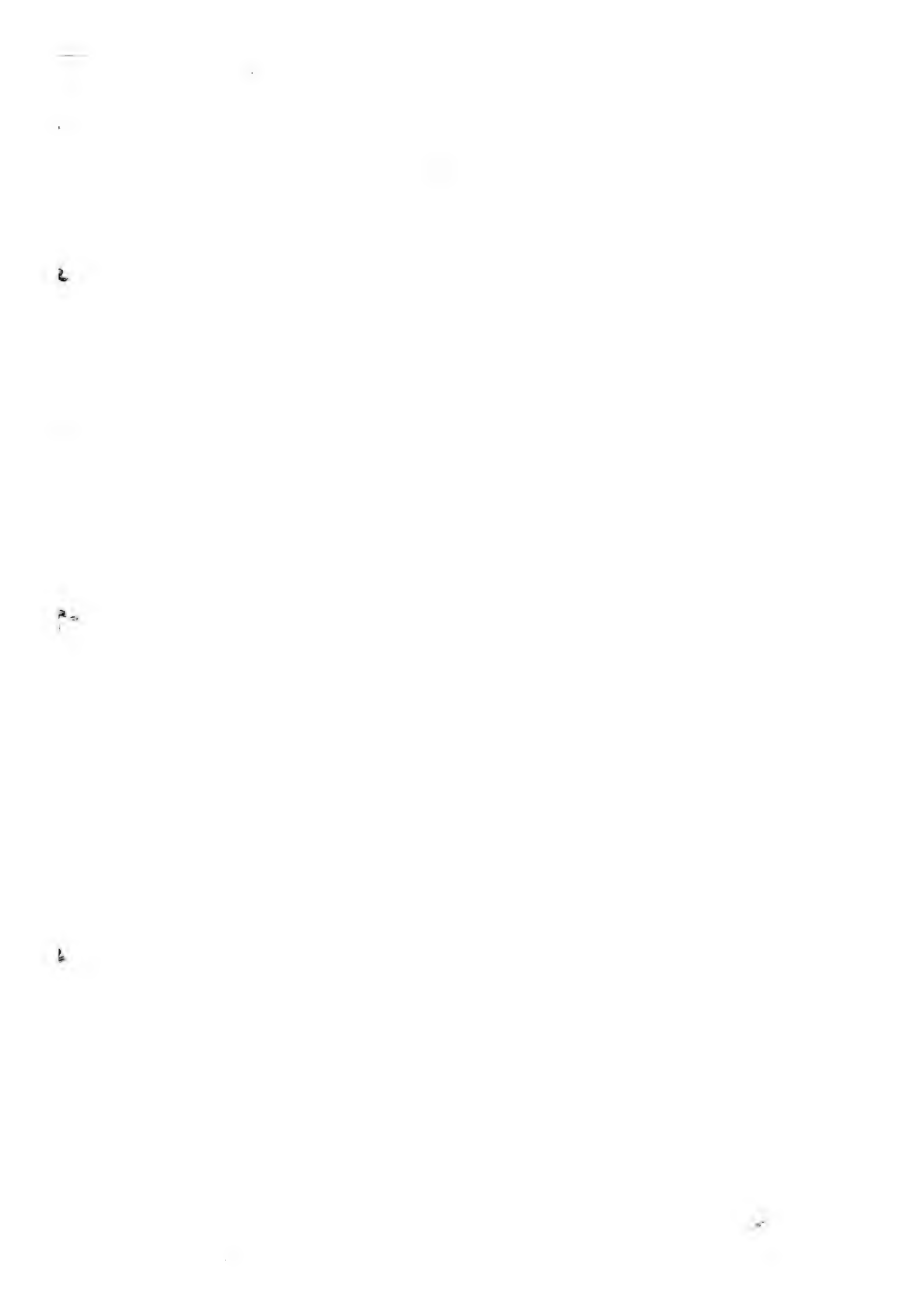
2

20

2

1





1

2

3

4

